

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract at page 19 as follows:

ABSTRACT

[Digital transmission method of the error-correcting coding type]

The ~~present invention concerns a~~ A digital transmission method of the error-correcting coding type which ~~comprises~~ includes, before a step of transmitting on a channel, a coding procedure ~~comprising~~ including at least one puncturing step, and, after said the transmission step, a decoding procedure ~~comprising~~ including at least one depuncturing step, ~~said the~~ coding procedure, applying a given coding scheme, generating a coded information item representing, with a certain redundancy, ~~said the~~ useful information item and ~~said the~~ decoding procedure estimating said useful information item by correcting transmission errors.

*a1* ~~According to the invention, this~~ This digital transmission method also ~~comprises~~ includes a step of observing the transmission conditions and a puncturing scheme selection step (2) for selecting, according to said the at least one parameter, an optimum performance puncturing scheme amongst a plurality of predetermined puncturing schemes, the overall efficiency of said the coding step and said the puncturing step being a constant efficiency. The method also ~~comprises~~ includes a coding scheme adaptation step (3) which checks whether said the puncturing scheme selected by said the puncturing scheme selection step (2) leads to the fill puncturing of at least one output information item of a coding step, amongst a plurality of coding steps whose association in parallel forms said the coding scheme, and which, if applicable, modifies said the coding scheme so that said the coding step is no longer used.

Fig. 1